



West Virginia Senate

Committee on Economic Development

Minutes for FEBRUARY 17, 2021, 5:19 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Economic Development met on February 17, 2021, 5:19 PM in Room 208-W.

Members present: Senators Swope, Martin, Hamilton, Nelson, Roberts, Stover, Tarr, Woodrum, Jeffries, Stollings, Woelfel

Members absent: Senators Azinger, Ihlenfeld, Romano

A silent roll call being taken, the presence of a quorum was established.

Chair Swope began the meeting by welcoming back all former committee members, welcoming new members and introducing the committee staff for this session. He informed those in attendance that Senate Bill 86 was being pulled from the agenda.

Chair Swope went over procedures for the committee to follow during the pandemic. They were as follows:

- Please do wear your mask appropriately and distance as best as possible while attending committee meetings in person.
- For those members choosing to attend our meetings remotely, please let our Clerk know.
- Our clerk will use Microsoft Teams for our meetings. However, please do not use Teams if you are attending a meeting in person.
- If you have anyone wishing to speak for or against a particular bill on the agenda, please let our clerk know in advance. She will need the speaker's full name, email address, and telephone number, and such individuals must be able to use Microsoft Teams if participating remotely.
- The Senate Clerk limited attendance of visitors in this committee room to 10. That number excludes members and staff. Preference will be given to those individuals who were invited to speak or have an interest in a bill that is on the agenda.
- **If** we are unable to get to all the items on our agenda during our designated time slot, we will recess and reconvene 15 minutes after Judiciary or Finance, which ever is later.

- **As** a reminder, Senators joining virtually on Teams should keep their microphones muted and use the “raise hand” function on Teams if they wish to speak. Please wait until I recognize you before you unmute your microphone.
- **All** of our non-Senate guests joining us virtually on Teams should also keep their microphones muted and cameras turned off until you are recognized to speak. Once recognized you may unmute your microphone and turn your camera on. After you are finished testifying and answering any questions that the Senators may have, please mute yourself and turn your camera off again if you intend to stay on the Teams call.

Chair Swope recognized Vice Chair Martin for the purpose of making organizational motions.

Vice Chair Martin moved that rules of the Senate be adopted to govern the committee in its deliberations. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted.

Vice Chair Martin moved that the Chair be authorized to set an agenda of items to be considered by the committee. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted.

Vice Chair Martin moved that the staff be authorized as needed, to make any technical corrections to the bills, resolutions, and drafts which may be brought before the committee. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted.

Vice Chair Martin moved that counsel be authorized to incorporate all bills, or resolutions, as well as any necessary technical changes, into a committee substitute for the bill, or resolution, after the bill, or resolution, has been presented to the committee and the committee has voted to report the bill, or resolution, and to report such committee substitute in lieu of the bill or resolution. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted.

Vice Chair Martin moved that members who are physically present in their Capitol offices may participate remotely in committee meetings and hearings as though they were physically present, that the Chair be allowed to provide for simultaneous video and audio participation by committee members during such meetings, that members so attending be counted as present in determining a quorum, and that such members vote on every question pursuant to Senate Rule 43. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted.

C.S. for SB 42 – Creating Zombie Property Remediation Act of 2021.

Chair Swope recognized Counsel, Phillip Childs, to explain the proposed committee substitute in lieu of having it read. Counsel explained the committee substitute and answered questions from the committee. Senator Woelfel, lead sponsor spoke to the bill and yielded to questions from the committee, at times in tandem with Counsel Childs. Senator Woelfel offered an conceptual, clarifying amendment to the committee substitute, which was adopted upon voice vote. The committee agreed to the language of the committee substitute, as amended. Vice Chair Martin moved the committee substitute, as amended, be reported to the full senate with the recommendation that it do pass. Upon voice vote, the motion was adopted.

On Motion of Senator Martin, the committee adjourned.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chandler Swope". The script is cursive and fluid.

Chandler Swope

Committee Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tina L. Burs". The script is cursive and fluid.

Tina L. Burs

Committee Clerk